

Remarks

Claims 46-50, 55, and 57-66 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, claims 46 and 66 have been amended and claims 67-86 have been added. Support for the amendment and new claims can be found, for example, at previously presented claim 25 and original claim 1. The amendment to claim 46 and presentation of claims 67-86 has been made to introduce claim elements corresponding to those for which an election of species (regarding SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 5-8, 10 and 11) was required in the Office Action dated April 7, 2008 (see page 4). Thus, claim 46 is now generic to the additional species and Applicants request consideration of the additional species (which are now presented in dependent format from generic claim 46). Applicants also note that the poly-histidine tagged forms of the additionally claimed polypeptides exhibited similar activity to the allowed polypeptide (see page 7, Brief Description of Figure 1 and page 8, about lines 19-28). Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 46-50, 55 and 57-86 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

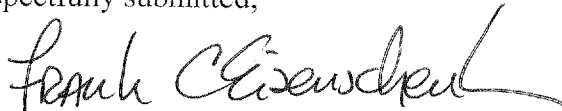
It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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